CRONOS HAZE
クロノスヘイズ
SWISH
CRICK
WHOOSH
WHIFF

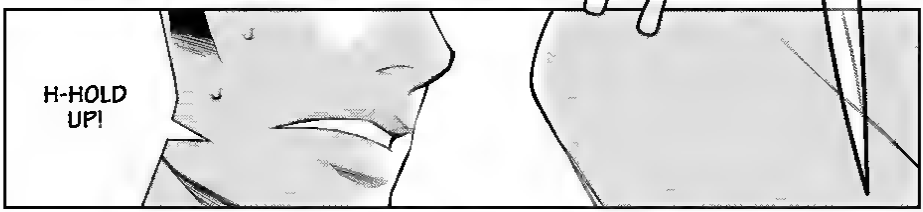
CRONOS HAZE

クロスヘイズ

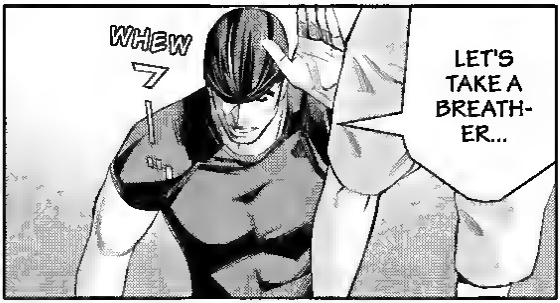
MASAYUKI TAKANO PRESENTS

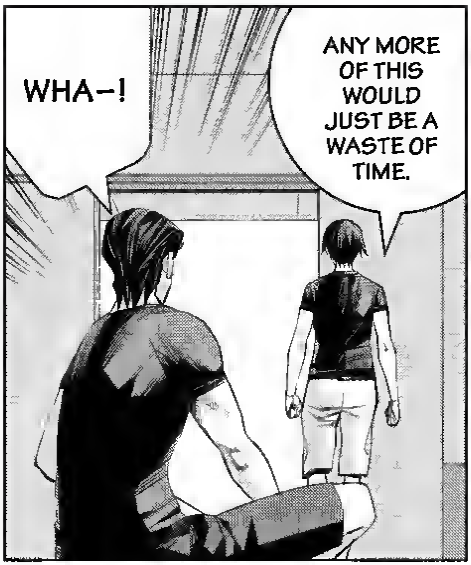
EPISODE 31: ONE BRANCH

WHOOOSH

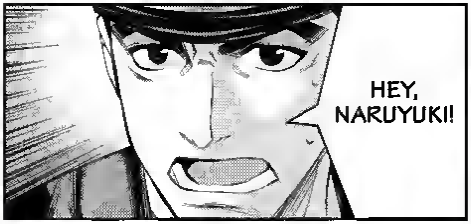

H-HOLD UP!

...


WHEW
LET'S TAKE A BREATH-ER...


WHA–!
ANY MORE OF THIS WOULD JUST BE A WASTE OF TIME.

STEP III
...I'LL JUST GO.
HUH?


HEY, NARUYUKI!

...
BAH
ちっ

GET, UH... PLENTY OF REST, OKAY?
ERR...
GULP
ゴビッ

...
YES?

TOUYA-KUN SEEMS PERTURBED.
SH- SHUT UP.
SHOE'S TOTALLY ON THE OTHER FOOT NOW, HUH?
IT FELT LIKE IT WAS TOUICHIROU-SAN GLARING AT YOU.
HMM... A LOVER'S QUARREL, HUH?
I THINK SOMETHING HAPPENED BETWEEN HIM AND CHIKA-SAN.

SHHHHAAAA
AM I NOTHING MORE THAN A CLONE OF HIM?
ALL MY MEMORIES OF THIS POWER, OF EVERYTHING, ARE MY FATHER'S.
SHHHHAAAA
DID THE PERSON NAMED "TOUYA" EVER EVEN EXIST?

YOU SEEM DOWN, TOUYA.
DIDN'T YOU LEARN EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW?
. . .
NO...NOT MINE. I'M JUST A PUPPET CREATED FOR CONVENIENCE'S SAKE.
THE OTHERS AT THIS SCHOOL, AND MY DAD, ARE THE ONES MAKING THE CHOICES.
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS YOUR CHOICE.

SLAP

WE...

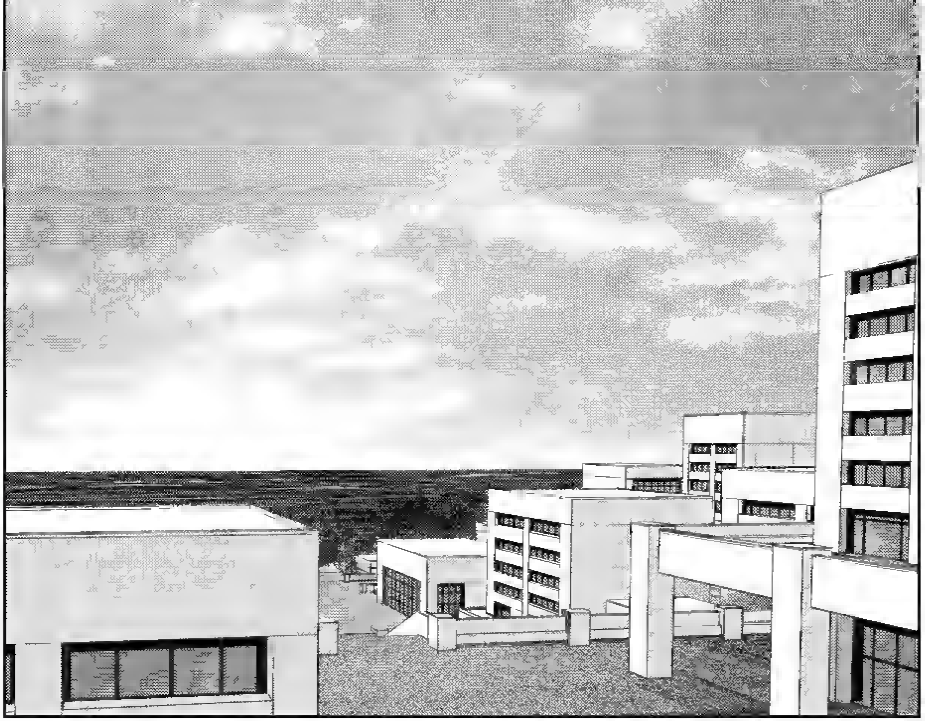
...ARE BACKUPS OF YOUR MOTHER, NARUYUKI MAFUYU.

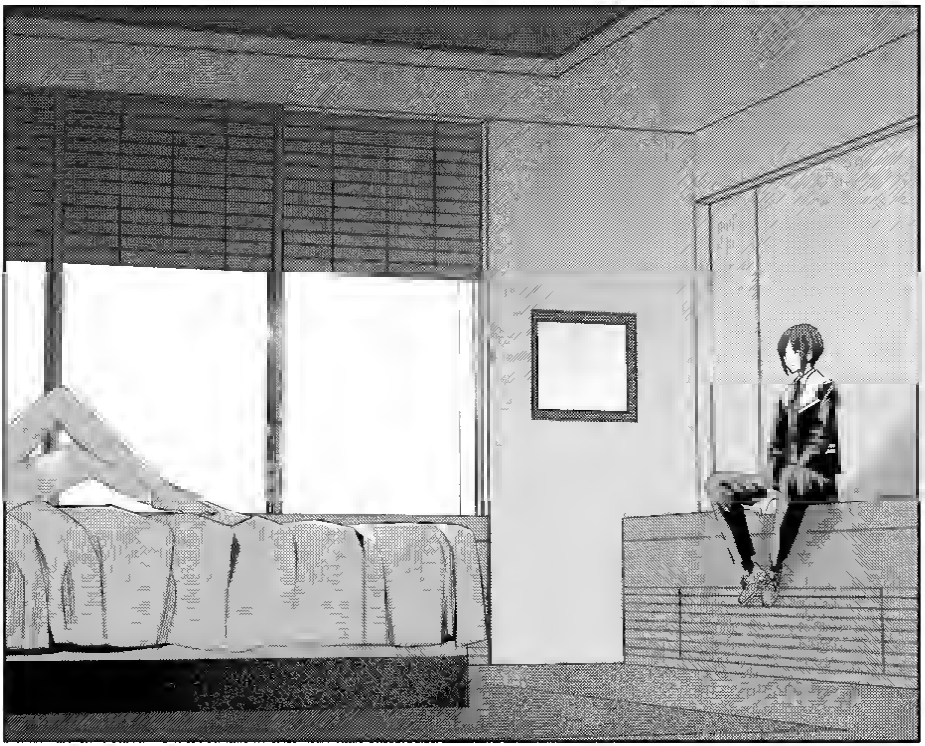
CREATED TO CARRY OUT YOUR FATHER'S REVENGE FOR THE HELL HE WITNESSED
ON AUGUST 6TH, 1945.

THE FEW SURVIVORS SPENT THEIR SHORT, MISERABLE LIVES AS TEST SUBJECTS FOR GIGANTES'S EXPERIMENTS.
OVER A THOUSAND CLONES WERE MADE. THOSE DEEMED DEFECTIVE WERE SWEPT ASIDE LIKE FALLEN LEAVES.
I'M... ONE OF THOSE CLONES.

PEOPLE WITH NO MEANS OF RESISTANCE CONTINUE TO BE ERASED
SO AMAGIRI ICHIROU CAN HAVE REVENGE... OR AS HE CALLS IT, "ETERNAL PEACE."
BUT TOUYA...
YOU CAN PICK WHATEVER WORLD, WHATEVER FUTURE YOU DESIRE FROM THE CRONOS HAZE.
SO HOW LONG
ARE YOU GOING TO STAND AROUND
ACTING LIKE ALL THE WAYS FORWARD ARE CLOSED?

YOU'RE NOT ACTING LIKE THE MAN WE TALKED TO ABOUT THE FUTURE.
WE COULDN'T EVEN CHOOSE OUR WAY OF DEATH, LET ALONE LIFE...





SO YOU MAOE CONTACT WITH TOUYA, HUH?
YES.
RIGHT NOW, TOUYA'S DISTRACTED.
IT'S AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY FOR YOU TO MAKE YOUR MOVE.
YESTEROAY ONE MORE CAME BACK.
YOU MEAN TOUKO?
YES, THAT WOMAN
I WOULD'VE LIKED THERE TO BE FEWER AGENTS BACK AT HOME BASE.

WELL, YOU'VE GOTTA DO WHAT YOU'VE GOTTA DO. THEY'RE NOT PEOPLE YOU CAN AFFORD TO HOLD BACK ON.
IT'S A RELIEF TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.
I MAY HAVE TO KILL HER AND TOUYA-KUN,
DEPENDING ON HOW THINGS PLAY OUT.
HRMMM
PLEASE MAKE THE CALL FOR ME, OKAY?
I DON'T WANT TO END UP FREEZING AND ADRIFT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN.
THE HEKATONKHEIRS WILL COME TO PICK YOU UP.

THEN I GUESS I'LL MAKE MY MOVE TONIGHT OR SOMETHING.
...
OH, RIGHT.
CAN I TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU?
FLIP
A PICTURE?
I PROMISED A FEW OF THE GUYS I'D GET SOME SEXY SHOTS OF YOU.
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M A MAN OF MY WORD.

I DON'T MIND, BUT THE PROFESSOR MIGHT GET PISSED...